

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 38-43, 45-49 and 52-60 are rejected. More specifically, Claims 38-43, 45-49 and 52-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,222,722 to Fukuzumi et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,077,742 to Chen et al. in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,824,590 to New. For the reasons set forth hereinbelow, Applicants request that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections associated with the pending claims be withdrawn.

By this amendment, claims 38, 52, 56 and 58 have been amended. Claim 59 has been cancelled. Thus, claims 38-43, 45-49, 52-58 and 60 are pending.

Double Patenting

Claims 38-43, 45-49 and 52-60 are additionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over either claims 81-113 of Application Serial No. 10/299,145; claims 81-109 of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/299,752; claims 81-108 of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/299,728; and/or claims 81-87, 89-103, 106-112 of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/172,253. Applicants enclose herewith a "Terminal Disclaimer To Obviate A Provisional Double Patenting Rejection Over A Pending Second Application" with respect to each of the above applications. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection be withdrawn.

Specification

In an Office Action mailed in related U.S. Application No. 10/299,752, the Examiner objected to the specification at page 11, last line (paragraph 40) for referring to reference “26” while Figure 11 shows reference “28.” For the purpose of completeness, Applicants have herein amended paragraph 40 of the instant application to recite reference “28.”

Section 103 Rejections

Applicants traverse the rejection of claim 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukuzumi in view of Chen and New. One of the elements of a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is that the cited reference, or references when combined, must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. *See* MPEP § 2142.

At least for the reasons provided below, the cited references, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the elements of the claims of the present application. As amended, claim 38 recites, “removing a portion of the non-smooth mold from the first surface of the interconnect.” As such, any combination of references cited against claim 38 must teach or suggest this feature, which is not the case here.

Applicants submit that Fukuzumi fails to teach or suggest at least this feature of amended claim 38. Applicants also submit that Chen and New fail to teach or suggest at least the above feature of amended claim 38. In fact, Applicants submit that Fukuzumi, Chen and New are silent as to, “removing a portion of the non-smooth mold from the first surface of the interconnect,” as recited in amended claim 38.

Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 38 and claims 39-43 and 45-49, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 38, are allowable over the cited references. *See* MPEP §2143.03 (citing *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) (“If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. §103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious.”))

Applicants submit that independent claims 52 and 58 have also been amended similarly to claim 38. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 52 and 58 as well as claims 53-57 and 60, which depend directly or indirectly therefrom, are allowable over the cited references for the same reasons discussed above with reference to claim 38.

Applicants are not otherwise conceding, however, the correctness of the Office’s rejections with respect to any of the dependent claims discussed above and hereby reserve the right to make additional arguments as may be necessary because the dependent claims include additional features that further distinguish the claims from the cited references, taken alone or in combination. A detailed discussion of these differences is believed to be unnecessary at this time in view of the basic differences in the independent claims pointed out above.

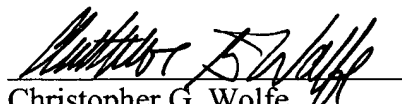


Application No. 09/770,699
Attorney Docket No. 98093DIV

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for the pending claims in the present application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that the present application is in condition for disposition other than allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below in order that the Examiner's concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted,


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